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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/663,649

09/17/2003

Hui-Tsang Chang

BHT-3111-361

3811

7590

08/11/2004

BRUCE H. TROXELL

SUITE 1404

5205 LEESBURG PIKE

FALLS CHURCH, VA 22041

EXAMINER

FIGUEROA, FELIX O

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/663,649

Applicant(s)

CHANG, HUI-TSANG

Examiner

Felix O. Figueroa

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "comprises" and "said," should be avoided.

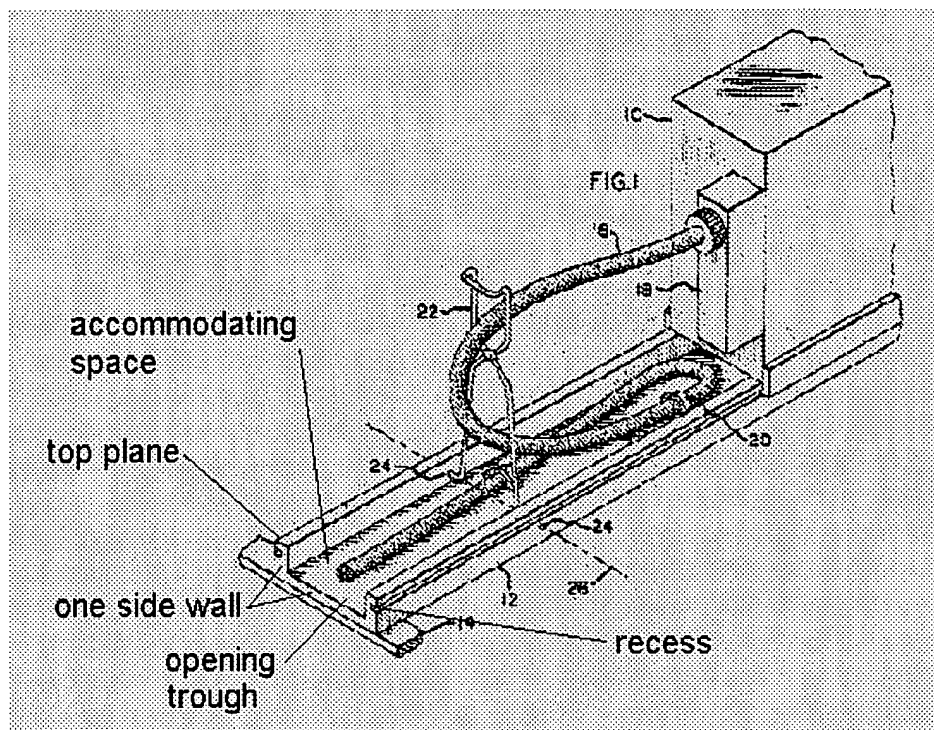
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

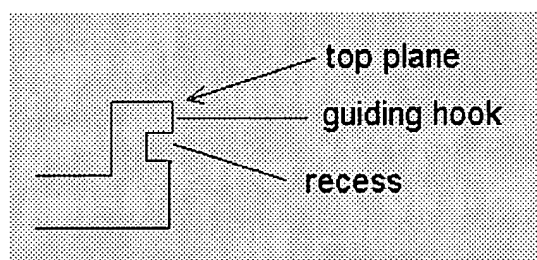
Claims 1-3 and 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schultz et al. (US 3,717,319) in view of Tomino et al. (US 6,475,022).

Schultz discloses a modular cable-holding device (12) for supporting an electronic device (10) connected with a cable (16), comprising: a top plane (not labeled, see following Fig.) connected with the electronic device; two side walls (not labeled, see following Fig.) deployed at two opposing sides of the top plane for propping the top plane up an appropriate altitude and forming an accommodating space (not labeled, see following Fig.) for receiving the cable, wherein at least one side wall has an opening trough; and a hooking element (22) deployed in the accommodating space for holding the cable.



Schultz discloses substantially the claimed invention except for the neck part. Tomino teaches an opening trough (205) with a neck part to restrain the location of the cable. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to form the opening trough of Schultz with a neck part, as taught by Tomino, to better organize and restrain the location of the cable.

Regarding claims 2 and 3, Schultz discloses the top plane comprising a recess for supporting the electronic device and a guiding hook (see following Fig.).

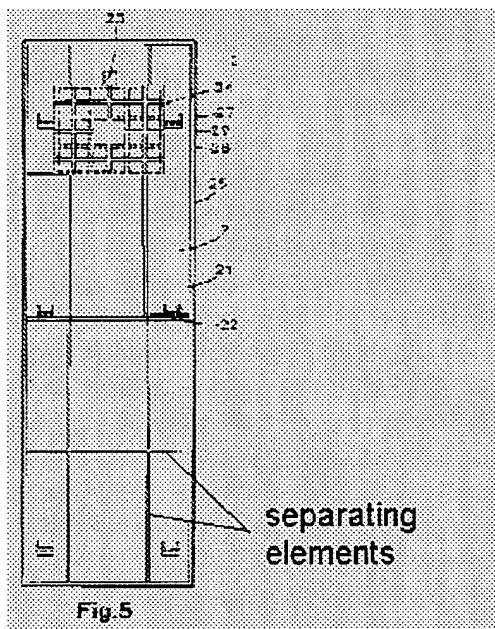


Regarding claims 6 and 7, Schultz discloses the cable passing through the opening trough and entering the accommodating space in a first direction, and exiting the accommodating space in a second direction through the opening trough after the cable wind around the hooking element (when the electronic device is on the fully inserted position, i.e. all the way to the right in Fig.3); and wherein the first direction and the second direction are towards two opposite directions. See column 3 lines 8-19.

Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schultz and Tomino as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Ho (US 6,059,384).

Schultz, as modified, discloses substantially the claimed invention except for the specific material for the device. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to form the device by plastic injection molding, as taught by Ho (col.2, lines 13-14), in order to provide a lighter and economical device, and since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design preference. *In re Leshin*, 125 USPQ 416.

Regarding claim 5, Schultz, as modified, discloses substantially the claimed invention except for separating elements. Ho teaches the use of separating elements (see Fig.5, following) in an accommodating space to provide structural integrity. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide separating elements on the accommodating space of Schultz, as taught by Ho, to provide structural integrity.




Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Felix O. Figueroa whose telephone number is (571) 272-2003. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 10:00am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (571) 272-2800 Ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ffr



THO D. TA
PRIMARY EXAMINER